RULES

ADOPTED BY THE

PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

IN

Dundee,

FOR THE REGULATION

OF THEIR

FEES.

OCTOBER, 1808.

DUNDEE:

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1809.

Dundee, October 3, 1808.

The following rules were this day agreed to, and subscribed by

Sir Alexander Douglas Bart. M. D.

John Willison, M. D.

Robert Henderson, M. D.

Alexander Ramsay, M. D.

John Crichton, Surgeon.

Andrew Willison, Surgeon.

Patrick Nimmo, Surgeon.

Alexander Bell, Surgeon.

Lyon Alexander, Surgeon.

WANT of information regarding what may be considered the reasonable compensation of medical aid, is a subject of very general complaint. To afford some facilities for obtaining this information, is the object of the following regulations, unanimously adopted by the PHYSICIANS and SURGEONS of DUNDEE, after ample discussion and mature deliberation.

It is evidently impossible to frame rules comprehensive of every case, or accurately to adjust the amount of medical fees to the circumstances of every individual; but the following arrangements, while they leave room for discretion, will go far to guide the judgment of the parties in the application to particular cases.

A division is formed, into three classes,—higher, middle, and lower,—with considerable latitude, for obvious reasons, in the charges applicable to each. The difference betwixt the fees stated for the higher and lower classes is very considerable, and must be so, according to the constitution and existing habits of society.

The respective sums stated are to be considered in general as nearly the average for each class; hence, any intermediate sum may be taken as applicable to individuals in any of the classes. Thus, it is not intended by these rules to confine the liberality of the more opulent to the highest charge in the first class, nor to preclude the humanity of the practitioner from gratis attendance upon the more indigent in the third class.

The value of property, in a great measure, determines the fees of law;—not so of medicine, where, of course, there must be less precision, and a gradation proportionate to apparent wealth. Still, however, that difficulty and embarrassment hitherto arising from arbitrary payment will henceforth be in a great measure obviated.

REGULATIONS.

VISITS IN TOWN.

1. DURING THE DAY.

To the higher class.

For single visits, 10s. 6d.

For attendance in acute diseases (being of short duration, and requiring frequent visits), per week, from L.3 3s. to L.2 2s.

To the middle class.

For single visits, 5s.

For attendance in acute diseases, per week, from L. 2 2s. to L. 1 1s.

To the lower class.

For single visits, 2s. 6d.

For attendance in acute diseases, per week, 10s. 6d. to 5s.

2. DURING THE ORDINARY HOURS OF REST,

The fee for visits to be doubled.

The fee for attendance in the suburbs to be somewhat higher.

The fee for attendance in chronic diseases to be less than in acute, in proportion to the length of time, and other circumstances.

VISITS TO THE COUNTRY.

1. At a distance not exceeding four miles,—as to Lochee, Broughty Ferry, and Invergowrie.

Higher class, per visit, -	L. 1	1	0
Middle class, - - - - -	0	15	0
Lower class, - - - - -	0	10	6

2. At any distance exceeding four miles.

Higher class, per mile, -	L. 0	5	0
Middle class, - - - - -	0	3	0
Lower class, - - - - -	0	2	6

N. B. These charges are to be considered as exclusive of chaise-hire (when this is necessary), and to be doubled during the ordinary hours of rest.

An additional charge to be made in visits by express.

Transient calls by desire to be charged as for visits in town.

3. From 10s. 6d. to 5s. for every hour after the first that the practitioner is detained, either from the urgency of the case, or from the desire of the patient or friends; and when, from any of these circumstances, it becomes necessary that he should stay with his patient during the course of a night, L. 3 3s. to L. 1 1s.

CROSSING THE RIVER TO FIFE; *viz.*

To the East or West Ferry,

Higher class, - -	L. 1	1	0
Middle class, - - -	0	15	0
Lower class, - - -	0	10	6

exclusive of boat-freight.

Visits farther in the country to be charged according to the distance, time of detention, and incidental expense.

The above charges to be doubled during the ordinary hours of rest.

CONSULTATIONS.

At the house or shop, L. 1 1s.; 10s. 6d.
By letter, 10s. 6d. to L. 1 1s. and upwards.
Lower class, gratis.

CORRESPONDENCE BY LETTER.

To be charged according to the difficulty and importance of the case.

STATEMENT OF CASES FOR CONSULTATION.

Higher class, L. 3 3s. to L. 2 2s.
Middle class, L. 2 2s. to L. 1 1s.
Lower class, gratis.

GRANTING CERTIFICATES OF HEALTH.

Higher class, - -	L. 1	1	0
Middle class, - -	0	10	6
Lower class, - - -	0	5	0

SURGERY.

OPERATIONS.

Capital operations,—such as amputation, trepanning, lithotomy, hernia, extirpation of cancerous mammæ, aneurism

Higher class, from	L. 31	to L. 21	
Middle class, - -	10	10	0
Lower class, - - -	5	5	0

Lesser operations,—as harelip, tapping, hydrocele, aneurism of the smaller arteries, and the like.

Higher class, - -	L. 5	5	0
Middle class, - -	3	3	0
Lower class, - - -	1	1	0

N. B. Dressings to be exclusive of the operations.

DISLOCATIONS.

Reducing dislocation of the hip-joint.

Higher class, - -	L. 6	6	0
Middle class, - -	3	3	0
Lower class, - - -	2	2	0

Reducing dislocation of the inferior jaw, shoulder, elbow, wrist, knee, or ankle.

Higher class, - -	L. 3	3	0
Middle class, - -	2	2	0
Lower class, - -	1	1	0

FRACTURES.

Same as dislocations; exclusively of medicines, dressing, and attendance.

EXAMINATION IN CASES OF ACCIDENT.

Where no operation is necessary.

Higher class, - -	L. 0	10	6
Middle class, - -	0	5	0
Lower class, - - -	0	2	6

DRESSING WOUNDS.

Higher class,	L. 0	10	6
Middle class,	0	5	0
Lower class,	0	2	6

DRESSING ULCERS.

At the patient's house, as after extensive wounds, operations, gangrene, or the like.

Higher class, per week,	L. 2	2	0
Middle class,	1	11	6
Lower class,	1	1	0

At the shop.

Higher class, per week,	L. 0	10	6
Middle class,	0	7	6
Lower class,	0	5	0

INOCULATION.

Higher class,	L. 1	1	0
Middle class,	0	10	6
Lower class,	0	5	0

INSERTION OF SETONS AND ISSUES.

Higher class,	L. 0	10	6
Middle class,	0	5	0
Lower class,	0	2	6

CUPPING AND SCARIFYING, INTRODUCING THE CATHETER, OPENING THE TEMPORAL ARTERY, AND SUCH LIKE.

Higher class, - -	L. 1	1	0
Middle class, - -	0	10	6
Lower class, - - -	0	5	0

EXTRACTION OF TEETH.

Higher class, - -	L. 1	1	0
Middle class, - -	0	10	6
Lower class, - - -	0	2	6

BLOOD-LETTING.

In the arm, neck, or foot.

Higher class, - -	L. 0	10	6
Middle class, - -	0	5	0
Lower class, - - -	0	2	6

MIDWIFERY.

DELIVERY.

Higher class, from L. 10 10s. to L. 5 5s.
Middle class, from L. 5 5s. to L. 2 2s.
Lower class, L. 1 1s.

ASSISTANCE AFTER DELIVERY.

During the day.

Higher class, - -	L.2	2	0
Middle class, - -	1	1	0
Lower class, - - -	0	10	6

During the night.

Higher class, - -	L.3	3	0
Middle class, - -	2	2	0
Lower class, - - -	1	1	0

CONSULTATION WITH A MIDWIFE.

Higher class, - -	L.2	2	0
Middle class, - -	1	1	0
Lower class, - -	0	10	6

ATTENDANCE WITH A MIDWIFE.

To be charged as for delivery.

ENGAGEMENTS BY THE YEAR.

To be regulated by the parties; as from L. 21 to L. 3 3s.

APPRENTICE FEE.

L. 30; L. 21; L. 15 15s.

Term of apprenticeship, three years and upwards.